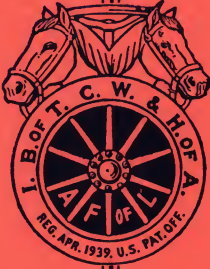


JUNE, 1942

# *The* INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



## *Official Magazine*

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
TEAMSTERS ... CHAUFFEURS  
WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS  
OF AMERICA

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## Quarrelsome Leaders Dangerous

**N**O OFFICER is any good to a local union if he is at continual variance with employers and with officials in public office, whether they be judges, district attorneys, mayors or governors. We have some who are made up that way. They are an evil to the labor movement and in reality they can do very little for the people they represent.

Of course all of us sometimes have reason to be dissatisfied with actions of public officials or some of our associate officers, but when we find a man who despises everybody in public life and especially those who disagree with him amongst his associates—such a man is certainly a menace to the labor movement.

All of us must learn that we are not a law in ourselves and we cannot do as we please. We are the chosen representatives of our people, and to render the best service to those people who trust us—surely we cannot do so by fighting and quarrelling and wrangling and hating all those around us.

There is a war on. The nation's safety is in danger. With the nation's safety goes the safety of every labor union and individual in America.

We cannot tolerate disobedience or defiance of authority. If in the past we exercised patience with those who willfully rebelled, that cannot go on now during this struggle in which the very life of our organization is in danger.

The peace and freedom of the world, and the safety of our families are in the balance. Only those who respect law and order, decisions and discipline should be permitted to remain as members of the International Union.

Officers of unions who tolerate insubordination or defiance of the International Union are a serious menace to the labor movement and to the nation, and insofar as the International Union is concerned, it shall not permit such individuals to remain in office or in membership. The first consideration of the International Union is the preservation of our nation, and thereby the preservation of the solidarity and unity of the International Union itself.

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## CRIMINALS MUST BE EXPELLED

If a member is found guilty of wrongdoing, such as grafting, accepting money under false pretenses from employers, or becoming associated with underworld characters, and if the individual is convicted in the lower courts he must be immediately disassociated from our Union. No excuses go. The Constitution calls for this.

Some of those fellows claim they are appealing their case and that the decision of the lower court will be set aside. That is not our law. When he is found guilty in the lower courts we have to assume that he is guilty. That is his lookout.

Such men are useless as representatives or members of our union, and they bring disgrace on our union if they are found guilty. I am dealing now with what is considered grafting or racketeering. If eventually the judgment of the lower court is set aside, then if it is the wish of the union he can be reinstated in membership. A member or officer should not be removed when he is indicted, only when the first court finds him guilty.—D. J. T.



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*Official Magazine*

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS  
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

Vol. XXXIX

JUNE, 1942

Number 7

## Go Through those Picket Lines!

By Daniel J. Tobin

### Office of Publication

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Lester M. Hunt, Assistant Editor

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**N**O MATTER what I say through the columns of this Journal, or what I say in private letters addressed to local unions, I still find a number of local unions that refuse to obey the orders they receive from the International office relative to sympathetic strikes and the crossing of picket lines.

Sometimes we are inclined to think that many of our members haven't the backbone to cross what we recognize as illegal picket lines.

Yes, I know many of our unions have a clause in their contracts which reads that it shall not be considered a violation of the agreement to refuse to deliver goods where there is labor trouble.

### This Is War!

Let me say now, unless the International Union orders you not to go through picket lines, that clause must be set aside during the period of the war.

If you can't comply with our International orders, which are founded on necessity and on orders from our government, then the best thing to do is to notify the International Union.



Then we will protect ourselves. We know how!

Some members have to have a bomb-shell dropped on the office of some local union in order to make them understand that our country is in danger; that our country is at war; that the Labor Movement has pledged itself to stand by our government and our country; that it is our duty to prevent a stoppage of work wherever it is humanly possible to do so.

Even in non-defense industries every means within your power should be used before you stop work. But the so-called picket line, since the passage of the Wagner Act, in many instances can be honestly called an organizing racket that isn't founded on legitimate trade unionism. I have repeatedly said that you must not recognize a picket line unless you are authorized to do so by the International Union.

### **Just an Organizing Racket**

In a certain city in the middle west within the last few months, one of the organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor threw a picket line in front of a business establishment. They asked the Teamsters not to deliver anything to that building.

An investigation proved that out of 25 persons inside the plant, only four of them were in the union and they had been in the union only a couple of weeks. The place had never been organized and the local business agent requested the Teamsters to refuse to haul any kind of product into that building. In other words, asked us to violate at least four contracts with four different sets of employers whose employees, our members, were going into that building.

An organization that never consulted us before they threw the picket line around the place; an organization

that didn't have but four persons in the building, wanted us to destroy four existing contracts and throw out of work 15 or 20 of our people.

### **Central Bodies Criticized**

Our organizer in the district notified the general president and the general president ordered him to order his members to go through that picket line, as it was nothing but a racket to compel the Teamsters to organize into a union individuals who were never in the union, and who did not want to belong to the union.

The central body in the district took up the question and condemned our organizer and, I suppose, indirectly condemned our International Union.

**Many central bodies also are the cause of a great deal of trouble to us, and I do not know what many of our unions get for paying their tax into some of those central bodies.**

However, let this sink into your minds as members of our union and as business agents. We are pledged to keep the wheels rolling. The constitution of the International Union forbids stoppages of work in sympathetic action unless such stoppage is authorized by the International Union. Local organizers or business agents can be dismissed as officers and suspended as members, under the International constitution, for violating this rule.

### **Stiff Penalties Possible**

Business agents who are not strong enough to tell their members to go through—and make them go through—should get out of the union. They should be replaced by business agents who have the stuff in them to carry out the law of the International Union and the urgent request of the Federal Government. Members who refuse



to obey orders should be suspended or expelled.

The International Union, in my judgment, will be called upon within the very near future, to forward to the Federal authorities a list of the officers in any district who cause a stoppage of work without having the sanction of the International Union. In other words, the Federal Government may demand of the International organization information as to what is going on in each district and why a stoppage of work has occurred, and who is responsible. And I might add for your information that the offi-

cials of your International Union will not refuse to comply with the orders of the Federal Government.

The Teamsters are considered just plain suckers by many of those phoney organizers who get 50 cents per head for new members, and the Teamsters do their dirty work for them by being so weak as to refuse to observe their own laws and thereby recognize the loafers' professional picket line. Ask us, "How many quit to help the Teamsters?" Answer: "None."

And more than that, we don't ask them to break their contracts. So do thou likewise. Ask us!

## *Unemployment Solved--by Biegiebel*

**W**HY should labor get all hopped up about the war? Well, listen to Herr Biegiebel. He has just announced a new economic formula.

Herr Biegiebel is chief of cabinet of the German Labor Ministry and he has a plan for avoiding unemployment after the war.

It is very simple. Everybody works—for Germany.

Biegiebel has just revealed the way it will be accomplished, if Germany wins the war.

He says that gigantic labor pools will be set up, including women as well as men, and also including all nationalities. From this labor pool, workers will be sent anywhere in the world that Germany thinks work should be done.

"No country," said Biegiebel, "will

be allowed to deal with its labor problem independently."

This means that Germany will write the ticket, tearing families apart, sending parents into exile and making millions of men without a country.

Everybody will be working for the German "master race."

"Inferior" Americans, Englishmen and Russians will no doubt get the dirtiest deal because they have upset Germany's timetable of victory and have killed a lot of the soldiers Hitler planned to use as straw bosses.

There is nothing in Biegiebel's plan to give white-collar jobs to the members of the National Manufacturers' Association. They will be sweating right alongside us, if Germany wins.

We wonder if they will still be anti-Roosevelt then.

---

The war has welded the whole American people into one mighty force—labor and capital, industry and commerce—all united in a strength that is unconquerable. Many of the problems that seemed so important but a few days ago have dissolved; many of the contentions that beset us have disappeared. And together, rich and poor, worker and employer, cleric and statesman, we face the foe, confident of victory. That is still the American way.—Chicago Union Leader.



## Defense Orders Issued—

# *Readjust Delivery Systems*

## —Protect Union Contracts

**I**MPORTANT readjustments of operations will be required by all long-distance and retail delivery systems to comply with the provisions of a series of orders recently issued by Joseph B. Eastman, director of defense transportation.

In the view of traffic experts, these changes can be made without affecting most union contracts now in existence, at least so far as wages and working conditions are concerned.

### Must Conserve Equipment

The purpose of the Federal orders is to conserve rubber and equipment because of serious shortages in both, and at the same time maintain the maximum distribution of civilian food and supplies.

There is nothing either in the intent or wording of the orders of Director Eastman to justify any employer in attempting to break any union or destroy any union wages or conditions.

The sole purpose of the orders, as explained by Director Eastman, is to make the best possible use of the limited rubber and automotive equipment.

He pointed out that last year 700,000 new trucks were put in service in the United States.

For this year and next year there will be only 150,000 new trucks. That tells the story. Trucks must be conserved or the civilian delivery system will collapse completely.

So far as tires are concerned, the defense transportation director points

out that there will be less than one-third as many motor truck tires to ration this year as were sold last year.

To conform to these painful facts, the orders of the director applying to over-the-road trucks are:

1. That trucks starting out must be loaded to 100 per cent of capacity, but not more than 120 per cent, because of the strain on the tires.

2. Returning trucks must start loaded to at least 75 per cent of capacity. This ratio may be reversed. For instance, a truck may start out with a 75 per cent load if it will have 100 per cent on the return trip.

3. Must eliminate circuitous routes except where the points served have no other carrier service.

### Mileage Must Be Reduced

Exemptions are made for military vehicles and others engaged in vital public service such as ambulances and public utility maintenance vehicles. Farm trucks are also exempt.

Pertaining to retail delivery systems, which includes milk and bread routes, the Federal order stipulates:

1. That all special deliveries and callbacks be eliminated, except for such emergency service as hospitals and the armed services.

2. That the mileage of all vehicles must be reduced 25 per cent under the corresponding month for last year.

3. That not more than one delivery be made any day to any person, except in specified emergencies.

Director Eastman carefully points



out that his order should not be made the excuse for every-other-day deliveries.

Diminishing the frequency of deliveries is only practical where it is undertaken by all operators. To forestall the hasty interruption of milk routes, the order refers to several ways in which operators may continue to serve the public and conserve their equipment.

He suggests the merging of routes as one alternative but warns that any steps taken must not be designed to interfere with any competitor. He does not encourage laying off men.

#### Milk Still a Necessity

Under the Federal orders, there is nothing to prevent any union from sitting down with the employers and working out a system of daily deliveries which will serve the public, maintain employment and at the same time accomplish the vital defense need of conserving rubber and trucks.

In cities like Minneapolis, which has an ordinance requiring the daily

delivery of milk, the solution is simple because the operators must conform to the terms of the city ordinance while complying with the Federal orders.

#### International Reprints Orders

In other words, milk is still a daily necessity for growing children and Director Eastman apparently recognized that when he drew his order.

It is not necessary to inaugurate the every-other-day delivery of milk or any other product where employers and unions understand the problem and approach it for a reasonable solution.

In order to fully acquaint each union with all the details and provisions of these important orders, the International has reprinted copies of each for distribution to all locals.

Individuals may, therefore, obtain further information from their union officials regarding General Order No. 5, applying to over-the-road operations, and General Order No. 6, applying to local delivery systems.

## *Get Copy of Mid-West Contract*

**A**LL over-the-road drivers in the twelve Mid-Western states are urged to obtain printed copies of the contract recently signed with the operators.

Dexter L. Lewis, director of the Central States Drivers' Council, said that enough copies of the contract have been printed to supply every driver.

They can be obtained either from local union officers or from Secretary A. F. Hudson at the headquarters of the Central States Council at 500 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

"Many drivers are not aware of the terms negotiated and some do not even know that the contract has been signed," Lewis said. "In order that every man is fully informed of exactly the provisions and wage scale under which he is working, he should obtain a copy of the agreement. Then there will be no misunderstandings over wages or conditions."

This advice applies to over-the-road drivers in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.



# *Western States Study Rubber*

## **Cut Pleasure Cars, Says Beck**

By E. J. Donohoe

Associate Editor, The Washington Teamster

**T**HE important delivery maintenance study which was started in Chicago at the National Conference of Teamsters was extended at the seventh annual Western Conference of Teamsters in Portland, Ore., June 3, 4 and 5.

Undoubtedly one of the hardest hit sections of the United States is the far West, comprising the eleven Western states from which delegates to the conference hail. The tire and delivery problem held the spotlight during the three days of meetings as it will through the coming months.

Dave Beck, president of the Western Teamster group, opened the conference in the Benson Hotel with a stirring appeal for sober concentration on the delivery upheaval caused by tire rationing on the part of the government.

"Teamster membership in the Western States will be hardest hit, because so much of the delivery, even long hauls, depend on fast trucks and competent drivers," Beck declared.

"So far, we have met the problem and we have taken steps to rectify any wrongs or inconsistencies in the government's program. That is our duty, both as union officials and patriotic American citizens.

"But how long can it last? Are we going to sit by and see truck tires wear down to the rims without replacement, while private pleasure cars are allowed to keep running?

"Our statisticians have proved that one truck can cover more mileage per day than twenty-five private cars. By

that I mean, if the corner grocer maintains his delivery system, in one medium load the truck driver could carry the groceries of 25 customers, thereby conserving the rubber of 25 motorists, who would otherwise use their cars to pick up their purchases."

Beck charged that there still is too much easy-going, "Let George do it" sentiment in the nation, even during critical war hours. He said that the people will get down to brass tacks and help win the war, just as soon as they realize that "we are in it up to our necks."

Over 160 Teamster unions in the 11 western states, through their 300 delegates at the conference, gave encouraging reports on their unions' activities in Civilian Defense, War Bond purchases, and Red Cross activities, including the blood donation campaign now going full blast.

Also out of the pre-conference caucuses and later through the twelve trade division secretaries' reports read on the floor of the conference, came highly encouraging accounts of union organizational activities, membership gains, and especially the fine work accomplished in the Southern California and the Rocky Mountain areas.

While the 300 Teamster delegates attended to their important tasks at the conference sessions, the wives of the delegates were treated to a one-day trip to Mount Hood's Timberline Lodge and shopping trips in Portland. The conference wound up the night of June 4 with a banquet.



# *Brewery Workers Ask Less Pay*

## **But Teamsters Get More**

**T**HE Brewery Workers' International Union is boycotting the brewery that pays the highest wages in South Bend, Ind.

That is the way the Brewery Workers improve wages and working conditions. They are patronizing two breweries who pay lower wages and give far inferior working conditions.

The reason?

The brewery with the highest wage scale has a contract with the Teamsters. The others have contracts with the Brewery Workers. And that gives a graphic picture of the difference between the two unions.

### **Central Body Pulls Fast One**

The Teamsters get the best possible wages for their members and the Brewery Workers don't.

In fact, the Brewery Workers' Union tried to prevent the Drewrys Brewery from signing up with the Teamsters at higher wages. They tried to keep wages down in South Bend.

It all started in April when members of the Brewery Workers local became disgusted with that union and began signing up with Teamsters' Union No. 364.

Out of 207 men employed in Drewrys Brewery, 190 joined the Teamsters, according to the records of Walter E. Biggs, president of Local No. 364.

Then the Brewery Workers' International sent Organizer Thomas McCort to town; not to get better wages for the members, but to prevent them from getting better wages through the Teamsters.

He didn't care about the wages. All he cared about was the dues.

McCort opened offices in the A. F. of L. labor temple in South Bend. The Brewery Workers' International has been kicked out of the A. F. of L. for refusing to obey its rulings.

Yet President Turnock of the A. F. of L. Central Labor Union gave office space to the representative of an outlaw union to break the wage scale of an A. F. of L. union.

And on April 23, McCort was escorted to Drewrys Brewery by Business Agent Polar of the Laborer's Union and Business Agent Morrow of the Carpenters' Union to raid the membership of the Teamsters' Union, Biggs revealed.

They made the trip in Polar's car.

In return for all this cooperation from A. F. of L. officials in South Bend, McCort then tried to take the Brewery Workers into the C. I. O.

But Philip Murray, national president of the C. I. O., put an end to that. He assured President Tobin that the C. I. O. wanted nothing to do with any union like the Brewery Workers, even though the local C. I. O. council had accepted them into membership without any knowledge whatever of the individual members.

### **Permit Racket Stopped**

As the climax to all McCort's maneuvering, the Teamsters won wage increases for their new members. They obtained a scale considerably higher than the Brewery Workers' scale in other South Bend breweries.

And they put an end to the pernicious permit system by which men's



wages are kept down with the cooperation of the Brewery Workers' Union.

The way this system works is that a man is employed by the brewery and given a work permit by the Brewery Workers' Union. Under this work permit, the brewery is permitted to disregard the wage agreement it has with the union and pay the permit men whatever it pleases.

### Teamsters Get Inside Workers

The permit men have no redress because they are not allowed to become members of the union. Therefore they are denied the union scale. But they pay dues to the union just the same.

Under this system, a wage agreement doesn't mean a thing except to a few favorites. The wages look good on paper but the employees don't get them, because the company and officials of the Brewery Workers' Union see that they don't.

But now the Teamsters have the employees of the Drewrys Brewery,

both inside and out, and the permit system has gone with the wind that blew McCort into town. Every man gets the wages provided in the contract. There are no secret deals or favorites.

And the men all get higher wages than members of the Brewery Workers' Union get in the other breweries of South Bend. For the first time, the employees of Drewrys have true seniority protection. They are protected also from wrongful and indiscriminate discharge.

Attorney I. E. Goldberg was assigned by the Teamsters' International to assist President Biggs and the members of Local No. 364. Their efforts resulted in the splendid contract with Drewrys.

And what do the Brewery Workers' Union officers say to all this?

They say—"Don't drink Drewrys beer."

We are not surprised. It must gag them.

## *Philadelphia Stops Non-Union Stuff*

**A** THREAT to the wages and working conditions of Philadelphia Market Teamsters of Local No. 929 was promptly met and removed by the local with the cooperation of the International.

As a result, all crates of tomatoes sold, checked, delivered, repacked or hauled by Philadelphia Teamsters are now bearing the label of Local No. 929, according to the report of Business Agent Bernard Samoff.

The adoption of the union label for crates or cases of packed tomatoes was authorized by the International after New York tomatoes had begun to flood the Philadelphia market

and retard the sale of union-handled crated tomatoes.

An investigation of the source of the New York product revealed that it was being handled by non-union help. The New York Teamsters are now moving to organize this class of workers.

The Philadelphia Teamsters will honor the label of all bona fide A. F. of L. unions.

This does not include, however, the label of the Brewery Workers' International Union, which was expelled from the A. F. of L. for refusing to accept its decisions. Therefore, the Brewery Workers is an outlaw union.



# *Native Sons Dance to Foreign Fiddles*

By Lester M. Hunt

WITH his dying editorial squawk, the publisher of a subversive little rag in Muncie, Ind., asserts that his forefathers fought in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

This emphasizes a sinister aspect of the anti-American propaganda campaign in progress today. The front men, in many cases, are Americans — native-born Americans — some of them with brave and illustrious ancestors.

They disguisethemselves in such patriotic names as "America First" and point with boastful hypocrisy to the records of men who died to give them privileges they cannot understand or appreciate.

The Indiana editor, for instance, is attempting to destroy the principles for which his forefathers fought. His ancestor in the Revolution fought for political freedom. His ancestor in the Civil War fought for human freedom.

And in repayment for their sacrifices, this editor would destroy all freedom by causing the defeat of his native land in the greatest crisis modern man ever faced.

With such a heritage as he claims,

this editor affiliates himself with such organizations as the Ku Klux Klan and spews the propaganda of the America First Committee.

His name is Court Asher and his rag was called the X-Ray. The government has banned the paper from the mails but Asher still runs loose, polishing the headstones in his family graveyard in hope of immunity.

Asher is a former bootlegger and with this qualification as a Grade-A American, he was picked as the personal bootlicker of a former grand dragon, or big dinosaur or something of the Klan.

The big dinosaur is now serving a life sentence in prison for the death of a girl he attempted to rape in advancing the Klan conception of protect-

ing womanhood. He, too, was a native-born, pure-blooded American with a lot of ancestors.

Very properly, the government has silenced the seditious voice of the ex-bootlegger in Indiana.

Social Justice, a similar sheet with a similar editor—so far as their views on Americanism are concerned—has also been silenced. Other seditious

## **What About This, Fr. Coughlin?**

Seventy-four Catholic priests have been killed by the Gestapo and 451 sent to prison or concentration camps by the Germans in occupied Poland, according to the report of Cardinal Hlond, primate of Poland, to the Vatican.

Twenty-eight Catholic churches and 46 chapels were destroyed by the Germans in the city of Poznan alone as part of a nation-wide campaign of persecution against the church, Cardinal Hlond reported, as revealed by the Czechoslovak National Council of America.

weeklies will be barred from contaminating the mails and insulting the patriotic intelligence of American people while they are sending their sons to battle for their birthright.

But the big toads in this cesspool of sedition are still splashing mud in the eyes of their countrymen.

They are the editors of certain large and influential daily newspapers whose columns are constantly polluted with propaganda against our government, against our allies and against our survival as a free nation.

### Punish the Editors

These wealthy publishers, too, are native Americans who point with pride to the names on their family tombstones. And behind these very headstones they lie in ambush to snipe at America marching off to war.

Fortunately, these few perfidious publishers do not typify the American press. For every editor who trades the double cross for the iron cross, hundreds are uncompromisingly loyal.

It is easy to identify the pro-Germans, no matter how they plaster their papers with patriotic slogans and flaunt the Stars and Stripes. A skunk has stripes, too. But he is still a skunk. He identifies himself.

These pro-German publishers were the backbone of the America First Committee. They are the backbone of the underground sedition which America First is still carrying on. They are the protection for the isolationists in Congress who do everything possible to discredit our President so as to sabotage our war.

They are the inspiration for such editors as Asher, the bootlegger-Klansman. In fact, in his last issue, Asher quoted verbatim a lengthy article from one of these daily papers.

Is the government merely going to get rid of the lice and let the rats gnaw on?

Is weekly sedition more dangerous than daily sedition?

And are the editors to be permitted to escape accountability for their actions, merely because they can exert strong political pressure through organizations like the Klan, the Silver Shirts, or the German Bund?

**Those who intercede for such men merit the closest scrutiny themselves.**

Maybe if we unravel this thread far enough, we will find out who pulls it to make the puppets dance. In any event, the puppets have had their dance.

Let them now pay the fiddler!

## *Pennsylvania Officials Obstruct War*

The Pennsylvania state government is guilty of obstructing vital defense work, according to charges leveled in the last issue of *The Pennsylvania Teamster*.

"The record is clear and damning," declared *The Pennsylvania Teamster*. "Millions of man hours are lost to war production because of delays at Harrisburg in issuing birth certificates. At present there is a backlog of 60,000 applicants for certificates with some of the applicants having already waited for months.

"If the state or any of its departments cannot function within the standards required of it by the present emergency, then these necessary functions should be performed by another agency capable of meeting the needs of the country."

Yet the Pennsylvania politicians cover their own culpability by pointing at labor.



## Tough Times Are Coming—

# *We Must Tighten Our Belts*

By Daniel J. Tobin

In the confidential letter which I sent to all of our local unions on May 4, 1942, I stated—

"I am afraid that it will be difficult for us to find the proper men to be officers of labor unions because of the responsibilities and dangers that may confront them relative to decisions and orders made by the government."

I KNEW what I was saying when I made this statement. My statement will gradually come home to the officers and members of local unions. You officers must make up your minds that yours is going to be a difficult job.

My job will be magnified a thousand times over yours because we have over one thousand locals. But a man who quits under the conditions now confronting the nation does not deserve freedom and is not entitled to be called an American.

Men working in the industrial trenches at home are making great contributions to help the men in the uniformed service of the nation.

Make up your minds, as local officers, that there isn't any such thing as carrying on as you did before. You have read the orders that I have recently sent to you relative to rubber.

Gradually those orders and restrictions will be getting worse. The government is much worse off for rubber than the average citizen is allowed to understand. This is my personal opinion.

### So Sorry, Please

The America First (hot) Air Corps in the United States Senate has suffered the first casualty of its War on Roosevelt.

Senator W. J. Bulow, one of the heaviest bombers, was shot down in flames (of wrath) over South Dakota by the Democratic voters in the May primaries. So sorry, please.

He landed out behind a barn, where they throw the straw and stuff. This provided ideal camouflage for a fugitive isolationist. Even a bloodhound couldn't pick one out of such surroundings.

When the sad news reaches Germany, a luftwaffe pilot may scatter a bale of straw in requiem over South Dakota some night.

In the meantime, the voters can pitch straw over the rest of them in the other states where they appear on the ballot next fall.

Remember them, when you remember Pearl Harbor.

The Japs certainly had the case well planned when they struck at one of the vital necessities of American commercial and military operation. Automobiles, trucks and gasoline are useless after a year or two if we have no rubber. The horse family has been almost entirely eliminated. Even if we had horses, we have no wagons or trucks; and if we had those, we have no steel to make springs or wheel-bands.

The Japs hit the vital spot when they conquered the countries from which we receive 95 per cent of our raw rubber. Of course we will find a way out at the end of

two, three or four years. We always have found a way out.

But in the meantime we, the Teamsters, with all the rest of the people, will suffer from shortage.

Certainly this war was well planned by our enemies, and poorly planned by those who had charge of our war preparations, and the greatest condemnation goes to the Congress of the United States who opposed any such thing as real preparation and real fortification of vital spots. I took no part in the nominations for office which have just taken place, because I do not know whether or not many of those in Congress deserve to be returned.

The purpose of this editorial is to prepare you still further for what is before you as officers and members. It is my judgment that 100,000 members of our trade will be out of work within the next year, as a result of the rubber and gasoline shortage. The country is overflowing with gasoline but we can't get it where it is needed.

### **Subs Sinking Tankers**

A few submarines on our coast have sunk our tankers. The tankers we have, most of them, must be used in taking gasoline to England and to Australia.

Above and beyond all, prepare yourself to hear a lot of grumbling from the fellow who hasn't the brains to

know that this is a life and death struggle for our existence. Men who are thrown out of work as a result of the shortage of rubber must find employment at other industries as soon as possible. Never mind the inconvenience it is going to cause you. Make up your mind that grumbling will get you nowhere.

### **Prepare for Long War**

Those who obtain other employment are entitled to withdrawal cards from our union in order to save themselves from paying dues. This is not going to last for a day or a month; so the man who faces realities in time and prepares for conditions that may obtain two or three years from now is the wise man.

Of course I do not like to write in this way, but it is my duty to inform you and to prepare you, so that our local officers in turn will face the industrial war that has hit us between the eyes totally unprepared for what has come.

When it is over and when we reap the rewards of victory, we can rejoice in the fact that God has permitted us to live in this age and to make sacrifices and give up whatever we could, to the end that we were in a small way helpful towards preserving freedom, justice, and civilization for the children now around us and for those that are yet unborn.

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### **Frank Randall Succumbs**

Frank J. Randall, pioneer member of the Teamsters' Union, died last month at his home in Toledo. He had been the secretary-treasurer of Local No. 20 for many years.

A telegram expressing the sympathy and regret of the entire International Brotherhood was sent by General Secretary-Treasurer John M. Gillespie to Harry W. Card, president of Local No. 20.

"Our union lost a loyal member," Secretary Gillespie said. "Such men are hard to replace."



## Admits Selling Rotten Food—

# *Morgan Found Guilty Again*

## —Has Long Criminal Record

ON April 12 the Morgan packing Company of Austin, Indiana, admitted in Federal Court that it had been shipping rotten food to its customers!

That was more than the Teamsters' Union ever said about them.

As a result of pleading guilty to the Federal charges, the company was fined \$400.

This conviction of the Morgan company was not the result of just one can of rotten food. Nor of just one shipment.

The charges covered eight shipments to customers in New York, Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee.

And with its conviction on these eight counts, the company has a criminal record of 18 fraudulent shipments running back to a grand jury indictment in 1922.

The grand jury indicted Morgan for sending out tomato puree and tomato pulp "adulterated with a filthy and decomposed vegetable substance."

And as recently as last April, the company was convicted again of the same offense.

### Two Damage Suits

In addition to these criminal charges the company was sued twice for the deaths of two persons who had either eaten its putrid products, or gotten in the way of its rampaging, scab-driven trucks.

The trucks alone killed eight people and injured 22 in a period of only 11 months.

Both damage suits were later dis-

missed, one of them at the cost of the defendant, which means that Morgan paid.

Of course any canning company is liable to have its food spoil if it leaves it sitting around where the flies can get at it. Even with precaution, a company is liable to have a spoiled shipment on its hands.

But the Morgan company had 18 shipments and it was caught so cold that it never uttered a word of explanation in its own defense. It just paid up and slunk out of court, hoping the public wouldn't hear about it.

And the public didn't. It was not considered news by the daily papers.

### Outright Criminal Deception

However, the most flagrant case of deliberate and willful fraud was one filed in 1931 covering two shipments of "Country Gentleman Sweet Corn" to the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company of Chicago.

The corn wasn't spoiled. It just wasn't sweet corn. The government charged—and the company admitted it—that the sweet corn had been adulterated with cheap field corn.

Which shows that the Morgan company treats its customers with the same ruthless contempt as it treats its employees, and the same contempt its drivers show for other motorists on the highways.

The cans of "sweet" corn bore the imposing assurance that the product was "Guaranteed by the Morgan Packing Company."

They carried the further assurance

that the "sweet" corn was "packed with great care and cleanliness after our improved process."

And the final laugh on the label was in the words:

"This corn is especially noted for its tenderness and fine flavor."

### It Was Hog Feed

Instead, it was the kind of corn used for hog feed.

And the "improved process" turned out products which a grand jury branded as "filthy and decomposed."

In this case Ivan C. Morgan and Joseph S. Morgan, operators of the company, were fined \$50 each, a penalty in which many observers feel the judge mixed "tenderness and fine flavor."

The last time the company ran afoul of the pure food and drug law in April, the penalty was the same—\$50 on each count. Maybe the courts just got the habit of socking Morgan \$50 a count after many years of practice.

The eight counts in this case covered shipments of American Beauty Catsup, Scott County Tomato Puree,

Kenmore Tomato Catsup packed for John Sexton & Co. of Chicago, Bel Pease Brand Tomato Paste and Columbus Tomato Puree.

The customers receiving the products which Morgan admitted were "decomposed" were:

Becker-Prentiss, Inc., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Randolph Wholesale Grocery Co., Chicago.

John Sexton Co., Chicago.  
Binghamton Wholesale Grocery Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Jellico Grocery Co., Harlan, Ky.  
Jellico-Hickey Co., Tennessee.

Mahoning Valley Flour Co., Youngstown, Ohio.

Jameson-Boyce Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

The individual customers of these companies will undoubtedly be interested to learn of the kind of products they are being served.

The Teamsters in those cities, and all others as well, should acquaint the public with the long criminal record of the Morgan Company in selling deliberately adulterated and rotten food.

Let it rot in Indiana.

## Onward, Through Shot and Shell!

Seventeen hundred union Teamsters answered the call for drivers on the Burma Road—the long road that ends in death. They were tough men who were given a tough job to handle—their mission was simple and direct—keep the trucks rolling—come hell or high water, trucks carrying supplies to the Chinese armies must go through.

Today, and for many days past, no word has come out of Burma as to the fate of these brothers. We know that the Japs have cut the Burma Road. Perhaps many of our people are dead—if so, we know that they went down fighting. There were no weaklings among them. These brothers of ours answered the call to service and adventure. Their wages were paid in Chinese money. Bereft of friends and families, they adhered to one ideal and that ideal was this: "Get the job done and get it done in the quickest possible time."

It is futile to endeavor by mere words to express our feelings towards these brothers. We know in our hearts that they are not, and never will be, forgotten. At the gatherings of the great Brotherhood of Teamsters during the years to come their names and deeds will be revered.

The trail has been blazed. Our path is clear. Our people will not be found wanting. When the call comes to serve our country, our membership will respond as always—with enthusiasm and unswerving loyalty.—*The Arizona Teamster.*



## Bakery Employers Cooperate —

# *Boston Union Celebrates*

A CONTRAST between the patriotism of labor and of the large corporations attacking labor was drawn by President Tobin in a speech before a joint meeting of Bakery Drivers' Union No. 494 and the Boston employers they serve.

The Boston gathering celebrated the fifth anniversary of the chartering of Local No. 494 by the International. The fact that the employers joined in the celebration attested the harmonious relations existing between employer and employee in the Boston bakery industry. "This augurs well for the future," President Tobin said.

In his talk, President Tobin dwelt on the seriousness of the war to both business and labor. "If we lose, all that labor has gained may be lost, together with all free business enterprise," he warned.

### Secret Deals With Germany

The general president recalled that anti-labor corporations stirring up the national campaign against labor, had been exposed as having secret dealings with the enemies of the United States.

While they pointed the finger of accusation at labor, they were conniving with German industry to the detriment of the war effort of their own country.

"The anti-labor legislation contemplated in Washington and so thoroughly advertised, is, in the judgment of those who seem to know, a policy promoted by many large corporations who are not friendly to labor and who have proven themselves to be enemies

of the government," President Tobin said.

"Many of them have contracts and understandings and agreements with German business and German governmental institutions, to the detriment and injury of our own country and the cause for which the flower of our nation is offering up its life.

### Labor Makes Pledge

"Labor has never been charged with entering into any alliances or understandings with foreign labor groups or governments to the detriment of the United States.

"Labor has pledged itself to render every service during the period of the war."

President Tobin then revealed how big business in France had conspired with Germany and contributed to the downfall of France.

"The labor-hating, religion-hating regime of Germany was encouraged in a campaign promoted by the big business elements of France.

"From recent disclosures, how long are the masses of the American people going to remain silent? Can you blame them for believing that some such condition may be hatching in this country when we read about large oil companies secretly entering into agreements with the German government?

"For thirty pieces of silver they sold inventions and rights covering synthetic rubber and refused equal consideration to Americans, to the injury of our country at war.

"And we learn further that steel companies which have always hated



labor unions, have violated the priority orders of the government and sold steel to private customers, again to the injury of our government."

President Tobin cited the seizure of the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation. He said it was one of several companies having a majority of employees of foreign birth in which

slowdowns occurred through suspected connivance of the companies.

And the general president suggested that the National Association of Manufacturers, instead of spending 90 per cent of its time trying to destroy labor, start an investigation of its own members to find out who is really sabotaging the war.

## *Teamsters Buy More Bonds*

### **Investment Exceeds \$5,000,000**

**R**APIDLY redeeming the pledge made by President Tobin and the executive board at its Miami meeting, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters has invested 60 per cent of its liquid assets in United States bonds.

And it intends to keep on buying bonds.

Four months ago the executive board offered every nickel in the Teamster treasury to the government without interest. The government rejected the offer on the ground that it was paying interest to everyone else and it would be unfair to take the Teamsters' money without interest.

Whereupon the International embarked on a program of buying Federal bonds on an enormous scale.

Early in May the International bought \$2,600,000 worth of a new issue of bonds the first day they were put on the market, following a letter from D. W. Bell, under-secretary of the treasury, announcing the bond issue.

So far this year the International has bought \$3,600,000 and the grand total now invested in government bonds, including the limit in Series G war bonds, is now \$5,001,800. In addition, the union holds some Canadian war bonds.

"We weren't fooling when we told President Roosevelt that all our assets were behind the government in the war and we weren't fooling when we said this war must be won regardless of cost in men or money," President Tobin said. "The Teamsters are supplying both men and money to the limit of their resources."

In order that the record may be complete, and the propaganda of our enemies answered, all secretaries are reminded to speed the assembling of war statistics for their individual unions.

The answers to the following five questions should be obtained as speedily as possible, and from then on, the records kept up to date:

1. How many members of your union are in service? Please state, if possible, how many are in each branch of the service—army, navy and marines.
2. How many sons of members are in service?
3. How many of your members have donated blood to the Red Cross?
4. How much in defense bonds has your union purchased?
5. How much has been purchased by individual members?



## Teamsters Win Again —

# Court Refuses Injunction

A MINNESOTA judge refused to act as an organizer for the outlaw Brewery Workers' International Union late last month and dismissed the petition of that union for temporary injunction against the Teamsters' Union and the Minneapolis Bottling Company.

It was just another in a long string of defeats for the Brewery Workers, now attempting to raid the membership of the American Federation of Labor from which it was ejected.

Judge Lars O. Rue denied the petition upon the argument of Attorney I. E. Goldberg representing the Teamsters.

The Brewery Workers asked the court to restrain the Teamsters from the peaceful picketing of stores using their products and to force the Minneapolis Bottling Company to discharge all its Teamster employees and hire Brewery Workers instead.

The employees of the company had

all joined Local No. 792 of the Teamsters, deserting the Brewery Workers. The Brewery Workers held a closed shop contract with the company. When they all went over to the Teamsters it was still a closed shop, but not the kind that the officials of the Brewery Workers wanted.

So they asked the court to open it up for them.

Judge Rue ruled that the Brewery Workers proposed "a very harsh remedy" when they asked him to force the company to discharge all its workers merely because they wanted a better union than the one they had.

So the situation continues in status quo, pending the outcome of another suit the Brewery Workers have brought against the Teamsters.

The Brewery Workers are spending more time in the courts than they are in the breweries. Perhaps that is why they are losing their members so rapidly.

## Five Atlantic States Form Conference

A N over-the-road conference has been organized covering five states and the District of Columbia.

The states covered by the conference are Virginia, West Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Maryland, according to the report of W. D. Anderson of Local No. 592, Richmond, who was elected secretary.

International Organizer Thomas P. O'Brien of Washington, D. C., attended the meeting which was held in Roanoke, Va., last month. Monthly meetings will be held so that the Teamsters in this region may keep

abreast of the rapid changes in labor and industry during the war.

O'Brien reported delay in negotiating a contract with a trucking merger along the Atlantic Coast because Assistant U. S. Attorney General Thurman Arnold had petitioned the Interstate Commerce Commission to reopen its hearings on the merger.

The organizer sharply denied allegations of Arnold that the merger would get a better contract from the Teamsters than the North Carolina Truck Association.

He said that the Teamsters had



made every effort to sign a contract with the truck association, which had been organized solely to negotiate with the union.

The association consists of six companies and membership has been re-

fused to any others. The Teamsters have tried repeatedly to sign a contract with the association, but the employers have stalled consistently. "If any conspiracy exists, it is on the part of the association," O'Brien said.

## Hughes Gives the News—

# *Praises California Campaign*

**N**ATION-WIDE recognition for the Teamsters' blood donation drive was given last month by John B. Hughes, one of the country's leading news commentators.

Speaking from Los Angeles, Hughes commended the campaign of the Southern California Joint Council of Teamsters culminating in the mass donation of blood on May 16 by the men who keep 'em rolling.

"These men have been giving the sweat of their brow and now they are literally giving the blood of their veins," Hughes said in summing up the Teamster drive in Los Angeles.

This has been going on all over the country for a long time but it didn't hit the headlines of the daily press or the ether waves of the national broadcasting systems until Hughes recognized it as news.

Further than that, it was news of a type that attests the morale that wins war. You don't see thousands of drivers lining up in Berlin, or Rome or Tokyo to give their blood for the men

in those countries' armed services.

Hughes recognized it and thereby stamped himself as the kind of a commentator who puts out news and not propaganda—a pleasing contrast to the clucking Von Kaltenborn and sugary, stuttery Fulton Lewis, Jr.

Hughes must have taken a lot of heat for mentioning the Teamsters as favorably as he did. No doubt every open shopper who heard him, wrote in to protest. We hope the Teamsters wrote in to commend him.

Elmer Davis is another top notch commentator labor should remember with appreciation.

As Hughes pointed out in his broadcast, heard from coast to coast, the Los Angeles Teamsters did not merely donate their blood on May 16, and let it go at that.

This was only the starter of a campaign intended to provide almost 50,000 pints of Teamster blood from Los Angeles for the Red Cross to save the lives of soldiers and sailors critically injured in battle.

## "X" Marks the Spot He Is On

Congressman Clare Hoffman of Michigan thinks that Congress should be entitled to unlimited X cards for gasoline, probably as a reward for congressional foresight in planning for the shortage of rubber and gasoline. He fiddled while the Japs burned our reserves. Now he wants to burn up what is left while the rest of us fiddle.

From his record so far, the country might be better off if it filled up Hoffman's tank, paid him a congressional pension, and sent him back whence he came.



## *Milk Unions Ask Cooperation*

COOPERATION between management and labor in the fluid milk industry to conserve rubber and still supply fresh milk daily to the public, was urged by the Mid-West Dairy Conference in Chicago.

A resolution declaring full sympathy with the government conservation program was prepared by a committee named by International Organizer Henry G. Burger. It follows:

WHEREAS, Labor in the fluid milk industry is fully cognizant of the perilous position of our country in the present war and we are fully in accord with the government's desire to conserve rubber, gasoline and delivery equipment, and

WHEREAS, The daily delivery of milk is essential to national health and morale, which if drastically interfered with, will render the home front less able to back up our fighting men on foreign soil, and

WHEREAS, Leading state and city health authorities, as well as the U. S. Public Health Service, have mandated certain minimums for DAILY pasteurization of milk for the protection of the milk-consuming public and in fact the surgeon general of the United

States Army insists on a daily supply of fresh pasteurized milk for army camps, and

WHEREAS, Labor in the fluid milk industry is desirous of cooperating with the Office of Defense Transportation, the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration in mileage conservation as decreed by General Order No. 6 and thinks it can be best worked out by joint cooperation between management and labor within the industry itself,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we call upon our International Union for cooperation through a committee from labor in our industry to work in joint accord with management to effectuate the purposes set forth in General Order No. 6 by O. D. T. relative to mileage reduction.

## *103 Worcester, Mass., Men in Service*

FROM Worcester, Mass., came the first answer to the five questions published in last month's issue of THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER for the purpose of obtaining detailed war statistics to answer those who say the Teamsters are not doing enough to win the war.

Secretary Leonard A. Ryan of Local No. 170 reported that 103 of his 1,600 members are now in active service and that the union has invested \$12,000 in Federal war bonds and is buying more at the rate of \$500 per month.

Ryan said it would take some time to obtain information on the amount of bonds bought by individual members, but that it would be compiled as speedily as possible.

No blood donations have been made

yet because no facilities have been set up in Worcester to handle them. But such arrangements are being made.

"You may rest assured that our Teamsters will be right out in the front of those who donate their blood," Ryan wrote.

To show the spirit of Local No. 170 members in the service, Ryan enclosed a post card from Private James Hickey of the Anti-Tank Company, 306th Infantry, in South Carolina.

He reported facetiously that the union should look into his wage scale of \$21 per month.

"Tell the executive board I wish they were here," Hickey wrote. "I like the army O. K. It's good for anyone. I'll see you when I get back from Japan."



# *Teamsters to Sign Breweries*

## **Treachery and Falsehood Exposed**

By Lester M. Hunt

**T**HE world was astounded in 1914 when Kaiser Wilhelm branded a solemn covenant between nations as "a scrap of paper," thereby ushering in the era of international immorality which has brought us again to grips with ruthless Germany.

How well Hitler has practiced the lessons in diplomacy he learned from the Kaiser is written in blood on the pages of modern history.

Hitler's contempt for his promises is one reason the labor movement is so grimly determined to win this war and destroy forever the tyrannical conception that an agreement is "a scrap of paper."

Labor's progress has been accomplished by agreements signed and kept in good faith between employers and employees.

When a union regards a contract as nothing but worthless words, it proves itself unworthy of the respect of the public, or of other unions.

### **Contempt for Contracts**

But we have encountered this contempt for contracts in our dealings in good faith with the Brewery Workers' International Union.

Many Teamsters do not realize that the Brewery Workers have scrapped the agreement they made with us in Miami last winter to end the jurisdictional conflict resulting in the expulsion of the Brewery Workers from the American Federation of Labor, for dictatorial refusal to obey its laws.

And how many members of the Brewery Workers' Union know that the agreement they signed with us at

that time was deliberately torn up as a "scrap of paper"? Their officers do not tell them that.

But here is the history of that sad chapter of faithlessness written by the Brewery Workers' International Union.

Representing the Teamsters in the Miami negotiations were President Tobin, Secretary-Treasurer Gillespie and General Organizer Dave Beck.

Representing the Brewery Workers were Joseph Obergfell, Albert Kugler and Joseph Hauser.

Before the Teamsters would agree to meet the Brewery Workers, they insisted on assurance that the Brewery Workers would abide by the decisions of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor in the jurisdictional dispute with the Teamsters.

For two days before the Teamsters met the Brewery Workers, conferences were held in the Columbus Hotel in Miami between the Brewery Workers' representatives and the president of the United States Brewers' Association, Mr. Charles, who is also president of the Hamm Brewing Co. in St. Paul, Minn.

With Mr. Charles was Joseph Keenan, a lawyer of Washington and Cleveland, who represented Anheuser-Busch. After several conferences these two men, both lawyers, drafted an agreement to which the Brewery Workers agreed and pledged themselves.

So that the record will be clear and incontrovertible, the agreement is reprinted in full on the opposite page.

(Continued on Page 22)



# OBERGFELL'S "SCRAP OF PAPER"

THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT entered into this 16th day of February, 1942, by and between Daniel J. Tobin, John M. Gillespie and Dave Beck, Committee of the INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS, on behalf of afore-said INTERNATIONAL UNION, and Joseph Obergfell, Albert Kugler and Joseph Hauser, members of a committee of the BREWERY, FLOUR, CEREAL AND SOFT DRINK WORKERS OF AMERICA, on behalf of last said INTERNATIONAL UNION,

## WITNESSETH:

Whereas, the American Federation of Labor—whereof said Teamsters' Union is a member, and said Brewery Workers' Union was, until recently, a member—has ordained and decreed that jurisdiction over those drivers, now members of said Brewery Workers' Union, is vested in said Teamsters' Union, and

Whereas, notwithstanding said decree of said American Federation of Labor, dispute and conflict has existed, and now exists, between said International Unions with respect to the exercise of jurisdiction over said drivers, and

Whereas, the parties signatory hereto are profoundly conscious of the crisis with which International War now confronts their beloved Country, the United States of America; and are mutually and sincerely desirous of aiding and assisting their country in every way and by every means within their power in the titanic struggle for the preservation of freedom, liberty and democracy, and

Whereas, the parties signatory mutually agree that industrial peace and order, among other things, is essential to the successful prosecution of said war to preserve freedom, liberty and democracy.

Now, Therefore, the said signatories hereto in their respective capacities, do agree on behalf of their said respective organizations:

1. A truce shall be, and is, hereby es-

tablished between the said Teamsters' Union and Brewery Workers' Union, effective upon the signing of this instrument, pending the completion of the negotiations and other actions referred to herein, to the end that there shall be an immediate cessation of all strife and conflict between said International Unions for the period herein provided.

2. Brewery Workers Committee hereby agrees to recommend to its International Union and membership, compliance with said jurisdictional award of the American Federation of Labor.

3. Prompt action shall be taken by Brewery Workers officials to convoke a special Convention to act upon said recommendations and endorsement of said Brewery Workers Committee so that it may act upon the same on or before May 1, 1942.

In Witness Whereof, the undersigned have caused their names to be subscribed in their respective capacities.

DAVE BECK,

Secretary of the Committee of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers.

JOSEPH J. HAUSER,

Secretary for the Committee of the Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America.

When it came to signing this agreement, Obergfell said that Hauser would sign for his committee. The Teamsters agreed that Dave Beck would sign for their committee. All parties agreed to the agreement.

Obergfell then claimed it was necessary to submit it to a convention in accordance with their laws, and that a convention would be held within 60 days. Final action would be taken after the convention had acted.

President Tobin stated in the presence of Keenan and Charles, and all the other parties to this agreement, that unless the committee advocated the adoption of the agreement by the convention, undoubtedly it would have some rough riding. Kugler and Hauser said they would support this agreement, as from an honorable standpoint they were bound to do, because they believed it was the best possible settlement.

### **Obergfell Made a Promise**

Obergfell may deny this, but he said: "If I do not support it one hundred per cent, I certainly will do nothing to injure it."

Subsequently, something happened that was never contemplated in Miami. The Brewery Workers asked for a meeting with the Teamsters, which took place in Indianapolis. This meeting was for the Brewery Workers to ask questions about and to interpret the agreement.

President Tobin answered the questions and explained that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters would do everything in its power to help the Brewery Workers. He said that all local unions of Brewery Workers affiliated with the Teamsters would be permitted to manage their own affairs, keep their own treasuries and negotiate and carry out agreements, elect their own officers, etc.

The Brewery Workers left the conference and went into their convention. Kugler and Hauser kept their word. Obergfell did everything in the world to discourage the adoption of the agreement. On more than one occasion he alleged to the convention that the only object the Teamsters had in mind was to destroy the "old, solid, patriotic, powerful Brewery Workers' Union."

### **Obergfell Broke His Promise**

He finally induced the convention to reject the agreement to which he was a party. The agreement solemnly entered into, over which we all rejoiced, was treated as a "scrap of paper." Then, as an alibi, they decided to submit the action of the convention to a referendum vote. The membership was to approve or disapprove the action of the convention. Of course, the vote would be overwhelming to approve the action of the convention.

Obergfell and his attorneys will perhaps emphasize this later on, if ever they get a chance to take us into the courts, and say: "This is the action of our membership." We saw the trick right away.

In the discussion in Miami nothing was said about a referendum. All that was discussed was that it was necessary to have the convention act on the agreement signed by Hauser representing the committee.

### **Tobin Offered Protection**

During the discussions it was stated that the Brewery Workers, because of the war and the tax on beer, would have a hard time surviving. President Tobin said that he would agree to take the entire Brewery Workers' Union into the Teamsters' Union pending the outcome of the war, and that they



would have the same rights and privileges as any other local unions.

Half of their membership at any rate, according to their own statements, are soft drink workers and thereby eligible to Teamster jurisdiction. President Tobin said that if the Brewery Workers would come over they could even divide the money in their international treasury proportionately among their local unions and they could pension Obergfell if he did not desire to come into the Teamsters. He further guaranteed that any international officer under salary would be taken care of by the Teamsters, and that with an organization of over 600,000 members and a treasury of over eight million dollars, protection would be greater for the Brewery Workers than it was struggling along with an organization of from twenty-five to thirty thousand members.

### **Do Brewery Workers Know This?**

President Tobin did not demand anything but the vehicle department, in accordance with the decision of the American Federation of Labor. He merely made these suggestions because he wanted to assist in maintaining the organized workers in the Brewery Industry. And to prove further that the past would be forgotten, he promised that the power and strength of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters would be dedicated to the preservation of the Brewery Workers in case of necessity.

How many Brewery Workers know of these intimate, inside statements?

We know that these were never brought out in the convention. How many delegates to the convention know that President Tobin offered to go to the Brewery Workers convention and explain the position of the Teamsters and answer any and all

questions for the information of the delegates, even though he knew he would not be a welcome guest?

He was willing to subject himself to any misunderstandings and answer any questions, but of course he could not go unless he received an invitation from Obergfell and the committee.

Twice in the conferences President Tobin said that he would go to the Brewery Workers' convention if he was invited. He was not invited.

**Obergfell did not dare invite President Tobin to the convention so that he might inform the representatives of the Brewery Workers of the Teamsters' position and of the determination of the Teamsters to protect the Brewery Workers.**

In the Miami conference it was agreed that hostilities would cease and that status quo would continue. That meant that there would be no argument between any of the unions of the Brewery Workers and Teamsters until after the convention. It meant that hostilities would cease, but the only place there were hostilities was Minneapolis. President Tobin ordered the Teamster pickets in Minneapolis to disband immediately. Obergfell also promised to call off the pickets of the Brewery Workers.

### **Obergfell Lied Again**

**He broke his promise and double-crossed everyone, and the Teamsters were compelled to order their pickets back on the job after being off two days, because of the failure of Obergfell to keep his promise.**

Mr. Charles told Obergfell over the wire from Florida to Indianapolis that Obergfell had broken his solemn promise and that he had agreed to call the pickets off in Minneapolis, as Tobin had done. Every master brewer who had anything to do with the conference or who knew anything about



it afterwards (as they were informed at the general conference held in New York) condemned and blamed Obergfell for the continuation of the trouble and the willful breaking of this agreement entered into in Miami.

Remember that the brewery industry is in a very difficult position. Taxation will be doubled. Certain state and national governmental boards have agreed that beer and ale are luxuries and not necessities. The State of New York has refused to give beer companies any consideration on tires. We know that beer has been almost-taxed to death in England. We know that the prohibition movement is gaining in our country.

**In the face of this, Obergfell has kicked out an agreement solemnly entered into which would have helped at least to bring back peace among the employees in the brewery industry and thereby help to consolidate our strength with the employers in time to save the industry from destruction.**

Why did Obergfell take this stand? Why did he break his word? Why did he humiliate his associates with his selfishness and his determination to wreck the industry in order to save his own skin?

### **Denny Lewis Might Take Him**

He knows that there is enough money in the treasury to pay his salary in Cincinnati, and that there is enough money coming in to pay him and the few dependents who have lined up with him. As long as the money lasts, there will never be a settlement of this question, and as long as Obergfell stays in office there will never be a settlement. And there will never be anything like cooperation and helpfulness for either the em-

ployees or the owners in the brewery industry.

Obergfell has gone into the courts and has been defeated and repudiated. The A. F. of L. has thrown out the Brewery Workers. Still he rolls on with his selfishness and his destructive dictatorial methods. He has made threats that he will go into the C. I. O. The Brewery Workers and the brewery owners do not want the C. I. O. and the C. I. O. says they do not want renegade associations who run into the courts and refuse to abide by the decisions of the courts or of labor organizations.

However, there is one place that Joe might go, along with those who follow him in the brewery industry, and that is to become a part of Denny Lewis's outfit, Division 50, United Mine Workers (who may in October withdraw from C. I. O.). They are even trying to organize dairy farmers. We doubt whether even Denny Lewis would take Obergfell. Joe Obergfell is like the man in the play—the man without a country. But what does he care? He has enough money coming in to pay his salary even though he does destroy the industry and the membership.

It is impossible to understand why the Brewery Workers can so blindly follow this false leader. It is also difficult to understand why many people in many countries across the water follow their blind and selfish dictators.

**To the officers and members of our locals we say: Go out and organize and bring into our union all inside and outside workers now members of the Brewery Workers. Save those good trade unionists and the industry from Obergfell, who regards agreements as scraps of paper.**

**We won't win the war in 1943 unless we start rolling in 1942. Defense Bonds will start us rolling. Keep on buying!**





**T**HIS is the standard union service sign officially approved for all branches of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The preparation of such a sign was authorized by the last meeting of the International executive committee in Miami and General Secretary-Treasurer John M. Gillespie announces that they are now available at his office in Indianapolis.

They are designed for use by filling stations, garages, warehouses, trucking firms and any other company that desires to let the public know it has union service so far as our International is concerned.

The cost of these signs is 25 cents each. They will be shipped from International headquarters on orders received through the secretary-treasurer of each local union.

The service signs are not to be used by any company which does not have a contract with one of our local unions.

Official Magazine of the  
**INTERNATIONAL  
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AND HELPERS OF AMERICA**

• • •

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**JOHN M. GILLESPIE, Secretary**

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